

## Message Text

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ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 VO-03 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02  
SCA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 SY-05 INSE-00 DEAE-00 /046 W  
-----001257 110338Z /10

R 110207Z JUL 77

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5672

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE HONG KONG 7952

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, SREF, CH VM

SUBJ: VIETNAMESE BOATCASE DESCRIBES STOPOVER IN PRC

1. VIETNAMESE REFUGEE WHO FLED CENTRAL VIETNAM IN A FISHING BOAT IN EARLY JUNE AND ARRIVED IN HONG KONG TWO WEEKS LATER INFORMED CONGENOFF THAT DURING THE TRIP HIS GROUP HAD PUT INTO THE CHINESE ISLAND OF HAINAN FOR THREE DAYS. THE REFUGEE, WHO IS AN ETHNIC CHINESE FROM CHOLON, EXPLAINED THAT AFTER SEVERAL DAYS OF WANDERING IN THE SHIPPING LANES OFF VIETNAM AND BEING IGNORED BY FREIGHTERS (FIVE IN ALL), HIS VESSEL BEGAN TO LEAK BADLY AND THE GROUP DECIDED TO RETURN TO SHORE. THEY SIGHTED AND LANDED IN A RURAL AREA WHICH THEY THOUGHT TO BE NORTH VIETNAM BUT WHICH TURNED OUT TO BE A SMALL VILLAGE IN HAINAN.

2. FOR THREE DAYS LOCAL CHINESE AUTHORITIES RESTRICTED THEM TO THE LBEACH WHERE THEY HAD LANDED AND PROVIDED A MINIMAL AMOUNT OF FOOD. THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES POINTED OUT THAT VIETNAM WAS A "FRATERANL COUNTRY" AND ASKED WHY THE REFUGEES HAD LEFT VIETNAM. THE  
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CHOLON REFUGEE REPLIED THAT THE CHINESE IN VIETNAM WERE MOSTLY MERCHANTS AND THAT SINCE BUSINESS WAS NOT VERY GOOD UNDER THE NEW ADMINISTRATION MANY CHINESE WERE BEING FORCED TO MOVE OUT TO THE NEW ECONOMIC AREAS. HIS FAMILY HAD THEREFORE DECIDED TO TAKE A BOAT AND SAIL TO HONG KONG WHERE HIS PARENTS LIVE. (THIS LAST FACT BEING A SMALL WHITE LIE.) THE

REFUGEE REPORTEDLY QUESTIONED HOW FRATERNAL THE  
VIETNAMESE WERE SINCE THEY WERE PERSECUTING THE CHOLON  
CHINESE.

3. ON THE THIRD DAY, RESPONDING TO THE REFUGEES'  
REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE, THE CHINESE ASKED WHAT VALUABLES  
THE REFUGEES HAD. UPON RECEIPT OF TWO TAELES OF GOLD,  
THE CHINESE PROVIDED DIESEL OIL, LUBRICANT, 30 KILOS  
OF RICE, TEN PACKS OF CIGARETTES, ONE FLASHLIGHT AND  
TAR TO REPAIR THE CHIP'S HULL, OBSERVED THAT HONG KONG  
WAS DUE EAST AND TOLD THE REFUGEES TO GET OUT.

4. COMMENT: NOT SURPRISINGLY, CHINESE BLOOD IS THICKER  
THAN COMMUNIST WATER.  
CROSS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, PERSONAL OPINION  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Subject:** VIETNAMESE BOATCASE DESCRIBES STOPOVER IN PRC  
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